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NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

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INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

SAUDI-IRAQI RELATIONS SEEN STRESSING IMPORTANCE OF ARAB UNITY

Beirut THE ARAB WORLD WEEKLY in English 16 Aug 80 pp 2-6

[Excerpt] Saudi Crown Prince Fahd Ben Abdel Aziz declared earlier this week that the Israeli Knesset decision to consider unified Jerusalem as the eternal capital of Israel was both a challenge and a threat to the Arab nations. He stressed that the Arabs must reconsider their strategy and rebuild their unity and solidarity to confront the new situation and, quite surprisingly, he said that "holy war" was the only possible retort to the Israeli move.

Coming from one of the top officials of one of the Arab states that are considered as most moderate, the declaration raised questions among observers as to its far-reaching meaning and consequences. The fact that it came a week after the oil-rich kingdom and Iraq issued a joint declaration announcing that measures would be taken against any country which recognized the Israeli decision gave even more momentum to the declaration and triggered speculations on the policy that Saudi Arabia was planning to draw up for the coming months.

The Iraqi-Saudi Statement. On August 6, Saudi Arabia and Iraq issued a declaration which said they would cut political and economic ties with any country which accepted Israel's annexation of East Jerusalem. The communique, which was issued after Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's visit to Saudi Arabia, said that "the two sides agreed to sever all political and economic relations with any country which responds to the decision of the Zionist entity and retains its embassy in Jerusalem."

The statement also condemned the Israeli move as "a new dangerous situation in a string of continuing Zionist aggressions which threaten the security, peace and stability of the region and the world." It also said that Saudi Arabia and Iraq valued those countries which had withdrawn their diplomatic missions from the disputed city following the Israeli action and urged other countries to do the same, and not to stand "hand-tied in the face of such evil Zionist activities."

The Saudi-Iraqi communique was issued after Iraqi President Saddam Hussein returned home from a 24-hour surprise visit to Saudi Arabia; the first visit to the oil-rich kingdom by an Iraqi President ever since the Hashemite monarchy was overthrown in Iraq in 1958.

The visit came as a complete surprise even to Saudi officials who, according to Saudi press reports, were taken aback and until the last moment did not know how to make protocol arrangements. Saudi reports said that when the Iraqi President's plane landed in Taef, Saudi officials thought of making a declaration saying that the President Saddam Hussein was coming to perform the Umrah ritual in Mecca, on the occasion of the month of Ramadan. The same reports added that, however, the Iraqi delegation insisted that the visit be called and regarded as an official one.

Some sources said that the Iraqi President may have surrounded his visit with complete secrecy for security reasons but the major questions that were raised dealt with the reasons behind his trip. It is worth noting here that Mr Saddam Hussein visited Saudi Arabia in late 1978 when he was Vice President, but his visit at the time was described as a private one conducted for religious reasons; it had nevertheless drawn attention to the relations between the two countries. These relations have been consistently improving ever since 1978.

Speculations had it that the Iraqi President's surprise visit was prompted by the deteriorating internal situation in some of the Gulf states, or by the latest Israeli decision on Jerusalem, both issues which are of vital importance for the two oil-producing countries. Another view was that Iraq, which will be hosting the OPEC summit slated for November, was seeking to ensure the success of the forthcoming meeting and to settle a number of questions related to oil production and oil prices.

It was noted that Saudi King Khaled personally accompanied the Iraqi President from Taef's Howaya Airport to the Guests' palace.

Interpretation. The joint Saudi-Iraqi declaration was described by some observers as the first step towards the establishment of a Saudi-Iraqi axis which would play a decisive role in both the Gulf and Middle East regions. This view was prompted by the fact that since the fall of the Iranian monarchy, Iraq has emerged as the leading military power of the Gulf region and has repeatedly expressed its determination to play a major role on both the security and political levels in the Gulf region, especially to maintain this region outside the realm of international conflicts and domestic disturbances. This position is shared by the Saudi Kingdom and, since April 1978, security agreements have been concluded between the two countries, but the consequences of these agreements had not yet appeared; perhaps because of the two countries' disagreements over oil question, or because of the 20-year friendship and cooperation treaty concluded between Iraq and the Soviet Union.

Following the conclusion, in February 1979, of a security agreement with Saudi Arabia, Iraq cracked down on Communists inside Iraq in a move which raised questions as to its future relations with Moscow. The treaty was maintained and one of the leading interpretations of the Iraqi crackdown was that 1) it wanted to eliminate the possibility of domestic troubles, and 2) it was eager to reassure the West as well as the moderate Arab states as to its intentions.

Among the interpretations given to the Saudi-Iraqi decision, one, put forth by AL NAHAR's columnist Marwan Iskandar said that its importance derives from the fact that the two countries are major oil-producing nations. They jointly produce 48 percent of all OPEC's oil and that the industrialized world could not, at this stage, bear a reduction in oil production superior to 30 percent of the current level. He said that this will prompt the EEC nations, Japan and the United States to avoid recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel because the Saudi-Iraqi declaration is tantamount to a warning that they would resort to the oil weapon to serve the Middle East cause.

However, western diplomatic sources in Beirut were reported in the press last week as saying that although selective economic measures, including the rupture of oil contracts, could be imposed against individual countries, it was unlikely that there would be any general use of the oil weapon. The sources said that both Saudi Arabia and Iraq have recently resisted pressures from Arab hardline states to cut their oil production.

In this context, the declaration made earlier this week by Saudi Crown Prince Fahd could be taken as yet another warning which represents the position of most of the Gulf states this time since the joint declaration was backed by at least 8 Arab states so far: Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar, Algeria, Jordan, North Yemen and Mauritania.

An Iraqi-Saudi Axis. The major question now is whether one can speak of a Saudi-Iraqi axis or whether one of the two countries will emerge as a polarizing Arab power around which all the others would rally. For some observers, it is Saudi Arabia which will assume the leading part because of a number of conditions that were not available before.

The main condition is the decision which Israel took in regard to the status of Jerusalem. The matter has been deemed serious enough to prompt Arab states to forget about their marginal and secondary conflicts to pool their efforts in the face of the new challenge posed to them. As one observer put it, the road to Arab unity passes through Jerusalem.

The second condition which contributes to promote the role and leadership of Saudi Arabia is the fact that the oil-rich kingdom is the only Arab state which maintains sound and balanced relations with all Arab states, from the most moderate to the most radical, including Marxist-oriented

South Yemen. In recent weeks it has also improved its relations with Syria and the thaw in their relations was overtly proclaimed when the Syrian president's brother, Rifaat Al Assad, made a visit to Saudi Arabia last month requesting its assistance to fight the Moslem Brotherhood organization.

Saudi Arabia also maintains relations with Egypt, despite its opposition to the Camp David accords and the separate peace treaty signed between Egypt and Israel.

This promotes the idea that Saudi Arabia will lead the movement for Arab unity or at least Arab consensus on a joint strategy to face the coming stages of the Middle East peace process. In addition, the declaration made by Saudi Crown Prince Fahd Ben Abdel Aziz marked a clear hardening of the Saudi position and precluded the possibility of a Saudi participation in the Middle East peace process in the near future and the current conditions. The declaration, marking a clear-cut position, is bound to lead to a definite rapprochement between Saudi Arabia and the hardline states.

CSO: 4820

CREATION OF ARAB MONEY MARKET URGED

Jiddah ARAB NEWS in English 4-5 Sep 80 p 1

[Text]

RIYADH, Sept. 3 (SPA) — Saudi Arabia Wednesday called for greater Arab role in international finance and for a broad-ranging Arab money market to boost the Arab world's economic development. Finance Minister Sheikh Muhammed Aba Al-Khail, said the Arabs should be more active in world financial institutions and also play a positive role in international currency reform. He was addressing a conference of governors of Arab central banks in Riyadh.

The governor of the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA), Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al-Quraishi urged an Arab strategy at the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank in Washington next month.

This would help reduce the impact of world inflation and instability of major currencies in Arab economies, he said.

He said that although Arab governments with funds had been helping needy Arab states, there was still a pressing need for private Arab capital participation in economic development financing.

This could only be achieved through an unrestricted and sophisticated Arab money market, Sheikh Abdul Aziz said. He urged

government support for existing Arab financial markets.

The Finance Minister said his government continued to support common Arab economic ventures without reservations.

"We hope the coming decade will be a decade of joint development to raise living standards in the Arab world," he added.

Earlier meeting of the governors of central banks and monetary authorities in Islamic states adopted here a number of resolutions including the seating of the Palestine Liberation Organization — PLO — at the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank as observers.

The World Bank had rejected, under American pressure, an application by the PLO to sit at its meetings as an observer. Now this application receives the support of the major bankers of the Arab and Islamic states which the bank may find even more difficult to ignore.

The final communique of the Muslim governors also decided to promote trade exchanges and the reduction of barriers put up against inter-Islamic imports. It called for increased trade by direct or indirect means and the transfer of capital from one state to the other without much difficulty.

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

ARAB STATES AGREE TO UNIFY PENAL CODE, SECURITY PLANS

Jiddah ARAB NEWS in English 31 Aug 80 p 1

[Text] Jeddah, Aug. 30 (SPA)--Arab interior ministers have agreed on a wide-ranging \$30 million master security plan for the Arab world, the Interior Ministry announced Friday evening.

The plan is aimed at reducing crime, improving inter-Arab law enforcement and organizing Arab penal codes into a common system based upon the Sharia, Islamic law. The ministers were holding their third conference in Taif.

The program, which runs between 1981 and 1983, will be financed by a joint Arab fund. The cost will be borne by member states and through voluntary donations from Arab countries.

Improvements will be made in the training of Arab security men, and funds will be made available for the purchase of better communications and laboratory facilities, weapons and cars.

A system will be devised under the plan to inform Arabs about the negative effects of certain types of entertainment, and touristic and cultural programs.

The special body set up to unify Arab penal codes will work out their administrative and technical structure along with other religious, cultural and social programs. Arab countries will be bound by the body's opinions and recommendations.

The ministers also decided to create a committee to monitor the media. The carefully selected committee members will define fixed criteria and will grade the materials reviewed as follows: good for all citizens, good for adults only, nefarious for security and public morals, and without any redeemable social value.

A joint command will regulate the operations of frontier guards to prevent smuggling, and cooperation will also be improved between Arab customs officials.

An Interior Minister's Council will be set up in the Arab League to prepare a final draft of the program which the Interior ministers will approve at their next meeting. Member states will then specify their financial commitments to the master security plan.

ORIGIN, STRUCTURE OF ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC CONFERENCE STUDIED

Mecca THE JOURNAL OF THE MUSLIM WORLD LEAGUE in English Aug 80 pp 27-31

[Text]

The Organisation of the Islamic Conference is the premier international body representing nearly one billion Muslims all over the world. It represents the fulfilment of their desire to work towards the realisation of their common aspirations for unity and co-operation in political, economic, social and cultural fields.

The idea for setting up such a representative Islamic International Organisation was put forward at the Rabat Summit meeting of Muslim Heads of State and Government. The OIC now comprises 42 member states (two namely, Egypt and Afghanistan are currently suspended from membership) and several observer organizations, including the observer status of Nigeria and the Turkish Federated State of Kibris.

The Heads of State and Government of 24 Muslim States met for the first time in September 1969 at Rabat to express

their grief and stock at the sacrilegious act of burning of Holy Al Aqsa Mosque of Jerusalem in August 1969.

The leaders participating in the Islamic Summit in Rabat also took the opportunity to express together their conviction that "their common creed constitutes a powerful factor bringing their peoples closer together and fostering understanding between them." They declared that "their Governments shall consult together with a view to promoting between themselves a close co-operation and mutual assistance in the economic, scientific, cultural and spiritual fields, inspired by the immortal teachings of Islam." The Summit also decided to set up the Islamic Conference Organisation with its Secretariat in Jeddah.

In accordance with the Declaration of the Rabat Conference, the Foreign Ministers of the Islamic Conference held their first meeting at Jeddah on 23-25 March, 1970.

The Third Conference of Islamic Foreign Ministers held in Jeddah in 1972 adopted the Charter of the Organisation of Islamic Conference which laid down the following objectives for the Islamic Conference:

(a) to promote Islamic solidarity among member States;

(b) to consolidate co-operation among member States in the economic, social, cultural, scientific and other vital fields of activities, and to carry out consultations among member States in international organisations;

(c) to endeavour to eliminate racial segregation, discrimination and to eradicate colonialism in all its forms;

(d) take necessary measures to support international peace and security founded on justice;

(e) to co-ordinate efforts for the safeguard of the Holy Places and support of the struggle of the people of Palestine, and help them to regain their rights and liberate their land;

(f) to strengthen the struggle of all Muslim peoples with a view to safeguarding their dignity, independence and national rights;

(g) to create a suitable atmosphere for the promotion of co-operation and understanding among member States and other countries.

The Charter also laid down that in order to realise the objectives mentioned in the preceding paragraph the

member States shall be inspired and guided by the following principles:

(a) Total equality between member States;

(b) Respect of the right of self-determination, and non-interference in the domestic affairs of member States;

(c) Respect of the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of each member State;

(d) Settlement of any conflict that may arise by peaceful means such as negotiation, mediation, reconciliation or arbitration;

(e) Absterion from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity, national unity or political independence of any member State.

The Charter also provides that the Conference is composed of the following:

i. The Conference of Kings and Heads of State and Government;

ii. The Conference of Foreign Ministers; and

iii. The General Secretariat and the subsidiary organs.

Subsidiary Bodies

The work of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference extends to all aspects of co-operation among the nearly one billion Muslims all around the world. In nearly a decade of its existence the Islamic Conference has been able to establish close co-operation among member States in the political, economic

and cultural fields and an institutional framework has been created for the achievement of these purposes. Following are the main organs and subsidiary bodies of the Conference.

ICEA & SA

The Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs is the principal organ of the Conference which supervises the implementation of the resolutions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers. After a thorough review of the progress of implementation of these resolutions, the Commission makes recommendations to the Annual Foreign Ministers Conference for their decisions. Thus, the Islamic Commission plays the dual role of supervision and of making recommendations of future course of action.

The idea of establishing the Islamic Commission was conceived at the Second Islamic Summit held in Lahore in 1974.

The Lahore Summit decided to establish a Committee of Representatives and Experts from Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Algeria, Egypt, Kuwait, Libya, and the UAE for devising ways and means for the attainment of the following objectives:

- i. Eradication of poverty, disease and ignorance from the Islamic world;
- ii. Regulating the terms of trade between developed, and developing countries and

improving the supply of raw material and import of manufactured goods and know-how;

iv. Ensuring the sovereignty of Muslim states, and eradicating control of the developed countries over their natural resources;

v. Mitigating current economic difficulties of the developing countries due to recent increase in prices; and

vi. Mutual co-operation and solidarity among Muslim countries.

This committee later evolved into the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs and was instituted by a resolution of the Seventh Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Islamabad in May 1976. The Istanbul Resolution visualised for the Commission the role of supervision, co-ordination and review of the efforts to promote economic co-operation among Islamic countries. The first Session of the Islamic Commission was held at Karachi in December 1977. The Commission which meets bi-annually has so far held 5 Sessions. Its last session was held in Conakry (Guinea) in January 1980. The recommendations of this session came up for consideration at the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Islamabad.

Islamic Solidarity Fund

One of the major decisions of the Lahore Islamic Summit was to establish a fund to be called

Islamic Solidarity fund to meet the needs and requirements of Islamic unity, Islamic causes, enhancement of Islamic culture, values and universities. The objective of Islamic Solidarity fund is to do everything possible to promote the status of Muslims in the world, safeguard their faith, support the solidarity and struggle in all fields, especially in the following areas:

1. Alleviating the consequences and results of crises, natural calamities and social conditions, that may befall the Islamic countries and communities and providing the necessary material aid.

2. Organising the granting of material aid and assistance to the Islamic countries, minorities and communities to raise their religious, cultural and social standard and contributing to the construction of mosques, hospitals and schools that may be needed.

3. Organising the dissemination of Islamic Dawah, the message, precepts and ideals of Islam, and supporting the Islamic centres in Islamic countries and elsewhere for the good of Islamic communities and the dissemination of Islamic thought.

4. Promoting scientific and technological research, establishing and financing Islamic Universities wherever required in response to the needs of the modern world and supporting the existing universities.

5. Supporting and organising activities of the Muslim youth in the world in spiritual, social and sports fields.

6. Organising seminars of leading experts and specialists working in Islamic fields to consider the issues of legislation, codification, administration, economics, culture and science that should be manifest in Islamic thought, as needed by the Islamic world.

7. The execution of all other projects adopted by the Islamic Conference and whose implementation falls within the jurisdiction of the Islamic Solidarity fund. The planning and preparation of the programme of action of the Islamic Solidarity fund is carried out by a permanent Council.

The present outlay on the activities of the Fund for the year 1980-81 is expected to be around US Dollars 20 million. The main heads of allocations of expenditure of the Fund are: disasters and catastrophes, Mosques, hospitals and schools, community and minorities, propagation of the Islamic Dawah and consolidation of Islamic centres and associations, promotion of scientific research and financing of Islamic universities, protection of Muslim youth, study seminars, fight against the Judaization of Jerusalem, activities related to the advent of the Fifteenth Hijra Century and running expenses.

Jerusalem Committee

During the Arab-Israeli war in June 1967, Israel had occupied the whole of the West Bank and Gaza Strip including Jerusalem. For the Israelis, it was the fulfilment of an ancient Jewish dream resurrected by the Zionist movement. On the other hand, the loss of Jerusalem was a historic setback for the Muslims, particularly the Arabs, whose difficulties were aggravated due to dislocation of Arabs from their ancestral homes and properties.

Openly defying the international law and the insistence of the international community on the temporary nature of the occupation, the Israeli authorities embarked upon a policy of integrating the occupied Arab lands with the political and economic system of Israel. Israel's designs on Jerusalem became abundantly clear when it declared Jerusalem as its capital and insisted that it would never give up the Holy City. Since their occupation of Jerusalem in June, 1967, the Israeli authorities have pursued a premeditated plan of systematic obliteration of the physical, demographic and cultural heritage and features of the Holy City with a view to presenting the world with fait accompli.

The Palestine question has been of central concern to the Islamic Conference. Exhaustive and comprehensive resolutions

have been passed by all the Islamic Conferences held so far, calling for immediate and unconditional vacation of occupied Arab territories, recognition of the inalienable national rights of Palestinians represented by their sole legitimate representative, the PLO, and the restoration of the Holy City of Jerusalem to Arab-Islamic sovereignty. For this purpose a Permanent Committee was established in 1975 and entrusted with following tasks:

- i. To study development of the situation in Jerusalem.
- ii. To follow up the implementation of the resolutions of the Islamic Conference and those passed by other International Organisations on Jerusalem.
- iii. To submit to member States and all concerned organisations proposals of appropriate measures to be taken to face new developments or implement resolutions.

The Tenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held at Fez (Morocco) in May 1979 decided that Jerusalem Committee should meet at the Foreign Ministers level under the chairmanship of King Hassan II of Morocco. It was also decided to dedicate the Tenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers to Palestine and Al-Quds and to declare the year 1400 A.H. corresponding to 1980 A.D. as the year of the Holy

Jerusalem. The EcO Conference considered the liberation of City of Al-Quds and the preservation of its Islamic responsibility. The last session of the Jerusalem Committee was held at Marrakesh under the chairmanship of King Hassan II of Morocco in March 1980.

Jerusalem Fund

In order to counter the Judaization policy of the Israeli occupation authorities and to sustain the heroic resistance of the Palestinian Arab population in Jerusalem and other occupied territories, a Jerusalem Fund was set up in 1976. The Jerusalem Fund is administered by an autonomous governing board of the members, including the PLO which is elected by the Jerusalem Committee for two years term.

Chamber of Commerce

In order to promote co-operation in the commercial and industrial fields, through the private sectors within Islamic world, the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Commodities Exchange has been established with headquarters at Karachi.

The Islamic Chamber has been charged with encouraging trade, industry and agriculture and promotion of investment and joint ventures in Islamic countries.

The First Assembly of the Islamic Chamber met at Dakar from 24-28 February 1980. The

Headquarters of the Islamic Chamber at Karachi were formally inaugurated by the President of Pakistan in April 1980. While inaugurating the Chamber, the President said:

"The Islamic Chamber of Commerce & Industry has the distinction that its member countries possess almost all economic inputs for progress and prosperity. By the Grace of Allah, the oil revenues have generated a large amount of foreign exchange. Skilled manpower is available in abundance. There is no dearth of raw material. The deficiency in the technological field can be overcome in a short period through a judicious use of capable personnel and foreign exchange. What is needed is that we should utilize all our resources through mutual co-operation in the true spirit of Islam, so as to promote the progress and prosperity of all mankind. Therefore, I feel that the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry should set for itself the important task of preparing ground for joint industrial ventures in the various member states with the co-operation of the private sector. The Islamic Chamber should prepare the blue prints of practicable industrial and agricultural plans for such ventures so as to enable the Islamic world to emerge into a new age of trade and industry."

Islamic News Agency

The Islamic world was in dire need of its own news collection and distribution services in order to raise the voice of Islam and bring communities spread all over the world, closer together. Therefore, the IINA has been set up at Jeddah to increase exchange of information.

When fully functional, the IINA will be making a vital contribution to the unity and co-operation among member states of the Islamic Conference. Currently the IINA transmissions in English and Arabic are being received by 19 countries.

In the present climate of misunderstanding and distortion of the news of the Muslim world, the IINA can be an effective instrument for a correct projection of the events and developments in the Muslim world.

Broadcasting Organization

With a view to creating greater consciousness of the identity and destiny of the Muslim Ummah, an Islamic States Broadcasting Organisation (ISBO) has been set up at Jeddah.

The ISBO has also been charged with dissemination of Dawah Al-Islamiah. The ISBO will thus be performing the vital functions of spreading the message of Islam and correcting the extraneous values and practices that have crept into Muslim communities in various parts of the world.

There is a great need to disseminate the message of Islam

to all parts of the world. The ISBO programmes are explaining the simple and rational religion of Islam and are thus helping to remove prejudices spread by foreign sources.

Ankara Research Centre

In order to facilitate the overall economic development of the Ummah, the Islamic Conference felt the need for an indigenous economic and social research and training centre of its own. A Centre for Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training was, therefore, established in Ankara in 1978. The basic functions of the Centre are:

(a) Collection, collation and dissemination of information on economic and social status of the member states with a view to developing data bank of the Islamic community.

(b) Study of evolution of economic and social development in the member states with a view to generating proposals that will initiate and enhance economic co-operation among the member states.

(c) Organisation of training programmes geared to the need of member states as well as to the overall economic objectives of the Islamic Conference.

Dacca Centre

To meet the need of skilled manpower and instructors in technology and trades a Centre for Technical and Vocational Training and Research has been established in Dacca. The Centre became operational in

May 1979. The Centre has the following objectives:

(a) To train instructors, technicians and tradesmen in technology and trades needed in member states.

(b) to conduct research on the requirements of technical and vocational education of the Islamic countries.

(c) to initiate, promote and guide technological and technical research having a bearing on problems connected with the development of manpower and technical and vocational education.

(d) to promote technical co-operation, exchange technical know-how and disseminate basic informations in the field of human resources in general and technical vocational education in particular.

History, Art and Culture

A research centre for Islamic History Art and Culture is being set up at Istanbul with the generous donation of the Islamic Solidarity Fund, Saudi Arabia and the Government of Turkey. The objectives laid down for the Research Centre are:

(a) to set up an institution where scientists, historians, writers and artists from Islamic countries will carry out research on the common cultural heritage of Muslims in order to promote better understanding among Muslims all over the world.

(b) to create objective conditions for close co-operation among historians and writers of member states in order to

eradicate the prejudices spread by some foreign writers regarding the history of art and culture of Islamic people.

(c) to publish books, monographs and to arrange seminars and symposia for a better understanding of the cultural and historical environment of Islam.

In addition to the above, projects for the establishment of several other specialised subsidiary agencies like the Islamic Science Foundation, Commission for Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage, International Committee of Red Crescent, Islamic University in Niger and Uganda and Islamic Centre in Guinea-Bissau have been taken up by the Islamic Conference.

Islamic Development Bank

There was a long-standing desire on the part of the Muslim countries to co-operate in the task of financing economic development and to establish an interest-free banking system. To this end concerted efforts had been made by Muslim scholars in several countries. The culmination of this process came with the setting up of the Islamic Development Bank at Jeddah.

The purpose of the Bank is to foster economic development and social progress of member countries, and Muslim communities. Membership to the Bank is open to all members of the Islamic Conference.

The functions of the Islamic Development Bank are to invest in equity capital and in productive projects and enterprises in member countries. It also extends loans to the private and

public sector for the financing of productive projects, enterprises and programmes in member countries.

Islamic Banks Association

In order to meet the growing demand for guidance and expertise in setting up Banks which would function strictly according to the Islamic Shariah, an International Association of Islamic Banks has been set up with headquarters at Mecca. The organisation aims at strengthening ties between Islamic Banks and has the fol-

lowing objectives:

(a) Giving technical assistance and expertise to Islamic communities wishing to establish Islamic Bank.

(b) Establishing procedure regarding setting up of Islamic Banks and encouragement of their activities and their evolution.

(c) Seeking promotion of free capital movement between the Islamic Banks; and

(d) Undertaking research on money, credit and banking and prepare guidelines for Islamic Banks.

CSO: 4820

DAYAN INTERVIEWED ON WEST BANK, PALESTINIAN ISSUES

TA271447 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Interview with Moshe Dayan by Shim'on Ayalon "in Dayan's home" near Tel Aviv; date not given--recorded]

[Excerpt] [Dayan] I think that, basically speaking, Egypt and Israel do see eye to eye what the peace treaty means and are ready to honor it and implement it, to live up to it, but the major point which there are differences of opinion is the Palestinian issue and here are two elements. The first is that the Egyptians said, right from the beginning, that they cannot and will not have a separate peace, so, legally, we got the Israeli-Egyptian treaty standing on its own footing, but politically the Egyptians said, and it is the true political position, that they cannot just take care of their own interests, have Sinai, etc., but they must have at least another party joining this peace process and the only party--not just another one, the only one--are the Palestinians. Here you can't really expect the Syrians to come in and now Lebanon is under the Syrian control and when we talk about Jordan, or the Palestinians, practically it is the same.

We have no conflict with Jordan, with the Jordanian kingdom as such, east of the river Jordan. So, when some of the Israeli parties say that they want a Jordanian option, what would they discuss with Jordan? They will discuss the West Bank and Gaza and when others say that we have to negotiate, or to reach an agreement with the Palestinians, it's about the same people and the same territory and the same problems of Jerusalem, etc. So, the--not only the next--one, but practically the only one country, or issue, that should be dealt with after the peace treaty with Egypt is the Palestinian one and I think that here there are major differences of views.

[Question] Do you think that there is any way that Israel can come to some arrangement with the Palestinian Arabs, which will definitely not include any representatives of the PLO?

[Answer] That depends on what you mean by representative of the PLO. I think that the answer is yes, I wouldn't say, that we have reached, not a written agreement, or signed agreement, but in reality a situation, in which both parties would cooperate, like the open bridges or the working of the Arabs from Gaza Strip and the West Bank in Israel. There is no agreement about that, but it is a fact, it is reality, with or without agreement. Now, talking about representatives of the PLO, I am sure that many of the Palestinian members and others are devoted, theoretically or ideologically, PLO, just like others who are in Lebanon. I don't think they are engaged in terrorism. I am talking about the martyrs; but who is planting explosives every week or so in Israel? It's not coming from over the border, it's done by Palestinian Arabs here, so, what I am trying to say is that I think that we can reach an agreement, a mutual agreement, a de facto agreement, about how to live together and it will not be an ideal one; probably the Arabs will take it only as a stage, a PLO stage, keeping their aspiration for a Palestinian state to be implemented one day, but cooperating in the meantime, during the transitional period. I do think that they will consult with the PLO, they will go to Beirut, they will meet Yasser Arafat, they will try to coordinate with them what they do, they would listen to the PLO, but I think that, one way or another, we can insist and achieve it, get it, that the people that we would be dealing with would be only those that live in here, in the territories here, in the West Bank and Gaza and those that we have no criminal charge against them, that they stand free.

[Question] What do you see at the events in the West Bank over the past year or so. There seems to be a growing trend toward extremism amongst the Arabs of these areas.

[Answer] How about Israel? Isn't it the same?

[Question] The extremism may also have grown in Israel...

[Answer] And in Jordan and...

[Question] You have recently been meeting, over the past year or so, with a number of Arab leaders and, most recently, with, once more, with the mayor of Gaza, Mr. Hashad al-Shawwa. Would you say that there is a growing extremism amongst the general Arab populace, or are we just seeing a fringe element here?

[Answer] I want to tell you that every time that I meet with an Arab leader or representative, I get out more encouraged and this is with the recent ones, too. Now, the way that I see it, there is a distinction between two issues. The first is their ideology, identity, and aspiration—they are right about that. What can you expect a Palestinian mayor to say, or think, when the European countries call for a Palestinian state? Do you want him to be less Palestinian than the

head of state of the European community? Surely not. So, as far as their aspiration for self-determination, Palestinian state and that we should go back to the old line and dismantle the Israeli settlements and move the Israeli forces, they are absolutely extreme in their formulas and their aspiration and demands, etc. But, on the other hand, when you talk business, practical issues; for instance, I think they would hate more than anyone else to see another war here and they are scared about it, because, if there will be a war between us and any of the Arab neighboring countries, then the first victims would be the Arabs and they would become refugees and I am just quoting what they tell me, that if something like that would happen between Jordan and Israel, Nabulus would be destroyed and finished and they had enough of becoming refugees.

Or, the other point, over which all of them really, not only agree, but they, it's their desire, to keep the free access, free coming and going between their territories and, their places and Israel, between Gaza and Israel, between Nabulus and Israel; of man and goods. They want to keep it. None of them want to reestablish the barrier between the West Bank, or Gaza, and Israel. All of them want to go on the way it is now. As a matter of fact, it's an unbelievable picture. I think that this year more than 130,000 summer visitors--not Arabs who live in the West Bank and Gaza, but Arabs who come from other countries, Syria, Saudi Arabia, etc., they cross the Jordan bridges, come to visit their relatives, but they do go to Tel Aviv and Netanya and why wouldn't they, without any checkpoint, without any restrictions. So this kind of way of life is not only acceptable, but I think that the Arabs, the Palestinians would not like to give it up. They don't have any alternative for their people looking for jobs or for their commodities that they want to sell, vegetables or fish that they catch in Gaza, etc.

So, what--trying to answer your question--there is more extremism now, in ideology, in aspirations and they really want it, it's not just for export when they say that. They really want it, but, on the other hand, they want to achieve it by political means and they don't want to be cut away from Israel, so when I think about what can be done and if I really avoid, say, let's say, cut out and forget about the war, on their initiative, count it out, and that they would like to keep the free contact with Israel.

[Question] You mentioned the fact that Europe, the position that Europe has taken; do you think that Israel has become more isolated amongst the countries of the world, not only because of the growing threat, the actual use of the Arab oil weapon, but because, really, when it boils down to it, all of the rest of the world, including the United States, would be a lot happier if Israel were to just cease to exist and to get rid of the headache?

[Answer] Almost, I would say and agree with you, but with slight modification of the formula. I agree that they would be happier--I wouldn't generalize and say everybody, all the countries, and America, it's too much. There are distinctions. But, let's talk about most of the European countries. Leave alone America, for the moment. I think that they feel that they would be better off without Israel, but, when you talk about Israel ceasing to exist, that is to say, once that this, that the country is a fact and that the way that the conclusion from your formulation should be that Israel would be destroyed, or something like that, liquidated, then I don't think that they really think or that they would have liked to see that. So they are just ignoring hard facts and they are looking for some formula that would satisfy their interests, but they wouldn't say, and I think that in the bottom of their hearts they wouldn't support the destruction of Israel; but, had Israel had to be established now, they would rather not have Israel than establishing it or supporting it.

[Question] When it comes to the crunch, how much can Israel rely on these countries and what can Israel do to combat this...?

[Answer] To rely less on these countries, to insist on our most essential things and not to deal with, or to take such action which are not essential. Not to add to the anti-Israeli feeling, the more by such action that we are taking which are not really essential for ourself, but, on the other hand, things that are essential for ourself, we have to go on doing them, like establishing, building settlements in the West Bank and Gaza and keeping the Israeli forces and keeping Jerusalem as our capital and enlarging the Israeli Jewish population in Jerusalem. I think these elements are very essential for ourself and we should go on doing it whether other people like it or they don't like it and if they tell us that we shouldn't have--I am talking about West Jerusalem--that we shouldn't have that as our capital, we should tell them, mind your own business. I can use even stronger words about that. Say, what do you mean by that? Are you really going to tell us where our capital is? Is anyone really questioning that West Jerusalem is a part, a legitimate part of Israel? Even those that want us to go back, even the Arabs that say that we have to go back to the 1967 lines, they do not really include West Jerusalem in the area that we have to evacuate. So, if we want to have our capital in West Jerusalem, how can they say that we can't do it, that we shouldn't do it, they won't recognize it? Of course they can, that's what they do, but I think that we shouldn't listen to them and so that's what they want, but we have to go on our way and this is the only answer to the conflict. But, on the other hand, we really have to avoid taking such actions that are not essential and really necessary for our security or for our national objectives.

'JERUSALEM POST' PUBLISHES DATA ON PROPOSED AMENDED BUDGET

TA241203 Jerusalem JERUSALEM POST in English 24 Sep 80 pp 1, 15

[Report by Meir Merhav and Shlomo Maoz: "Treasury To Print IS2.56 Billion; IS5 Billion Deficit in New IS90 Billion Budget Proposal"]

[Text] The Ministerial Economic Committee yesterday tabled an updated 1980/81 budget of 90.1 billion shekels in the cabinet, with a deficit of 5.22 billion shekels, based on an expected inflation rate of 123 percent. It was also announced the treasury now expects it will have to print 2.56 billion shekels, far more than the originally planned 2 billion shekels.

The government has not concluded its discussion of the updated budget, which includes a proposal for a further 7 percent cut in the purchases and investment outlays of the various ministries. The discussion will be resumed on Friday, when the cabinet will also have to decide what, if any, tax concessions to abolish and whether to raise taxes. Proposals to at least partially reduce the budget deficit by increasing taxes are still on the agenda.

If the cabinet approves the proposals of the Ministerial Economic Committee on Friday, the updated budget will be tabled in the Knesset immediately after the recess, in the second week of October. Delay in Knesset approval may create serious difficulties for the government ministries, who will be left without a legal allocation of funds.

The forecast deficit of 5.22 billion shekels is exactly twice as large as the 2.61 billion shekels deficit provided for the original budget proposal.

The government's domestic excess demand--the difference between the total demand generated by government outlays and the foreign currency expenditures--is estimated at 5.46 billion shekels. The original budget had foreseen a 350 million shekel surplus of receipts over outlays--for example, an absorption of demand by the government.

The increase in the deficit is the combined result of shortfalls in revenue and of government spending beyond the limits foreseen in the original budget. Wage payments were 1 billion shekels higher than expected, various subsidies paid by the government cost 880 million shekels more than foreseen--mainly because price increases were delayed--and 1.1 billion shekels more than predicted were transferred to the local authorities.

Revenues fell short of what was foreseen by 880 million shekels mainly because imports fell off and the purchase of durable consumer goods declined. In addition, the national insurance institute and the local authorities failed to collect all the money due them, because the necessary legislation which had been planned, was not passed.

While the government expects to generate an excess demand of 5.46 billion shekels in the entire fiscal year, data for the first five months already show an excess demand of 2.8 billion shekels. However, treasury economists believe that the inflationary pressures that boosted the government's excess demand in the first half of the year will be considerably weaker in the second half.

Finance Minister Yigal Hurvitz is due to leave next Sunday for the annual meeting of the board of governors of the International Monetary Fund, and will be absent for three weeks.

The adjustment of the budget to the rate of inflation was foreseen by the treasury when it presented its first budget, based on an expected inflation rate of 5 percent. The original budget proposal stated that if inflation was higher than that the ministries would have to absorb the additional cost.

That, however, was not accomplished.

The present budget proposal says that in order to maintain the real level of expenditure foreseen in the original budget, it would have had to be 85 percent larger than the 1979 budget, whereas the nominal increase was originally held to only 54 percent.

In the first half of the fiscal year, the new budget proposal says, expenditure cuts of some 1.7 billion shekels have been effected: 480 million shekels in defence; 350 million shekels in housing; 180 million shekels by cuts in government employment; 110 million shekels by the eliminating of various government activities; and another 100 million shekels through efficiency measures.

The updated budget is 38 percent bigger than the original budget, and 112 percent bigger, nominally, than the 1979 budget.

On the revenue side, the budget is predicated on collection of 45 percent more in income taxes (as compared with a 38 percent increase in the total budget), but only 15.5 percent more from value added tax, and virtually no change--signifying a decrease in real terms--in other indirect taxes, such as customs duties, and purchase tax.

The treasury expects that revenue from the employers tax, which originally was expected to bring in 1.37 billion shekels, will yield 2.55 billion shekels--nearly twice as much as budgeted in the beginning of the year.

Informed sources doubt the realism of these revenue estimates, and consider them an attempt to reduce the visible size of the budget deficit. If these revenue estimates are not realized, these sources say, the actual budget deficit may well be 2 billion shekels larger than provided for in the budget, and total 7.5-8 billion shekels.

The same sources also point out that the updated budget includes 12.1 billion shekels in domestic loans--some 51 percent more than foreseen in the original budget. This amount includes 2.1 billion shekels from national insurance, which is 400 million shekels less than originally expected. The money to be raised from government bonds and other domestic loans is therefore now estimated to be twice as much as in the original budget.

CSO: 4820

(ISRAELI PRESS) OPINIONS ON IRAQI-IRAN CONFLICT

(JERUSALEM TELEGRAPH Report) The Israeli press commentaries on 16 September 1980 are in general agreement that the current Iran-Iraq conflict, while superficially weakening one of Israel's enemies, may well represent a serious threat to the future.

JERUSALEM POST in English on 16 September carries a commentary by David Richardson, pages two and three, entitled "Winds of Gulf War: Storm for the Arabs?" in which he states that "The strategic implications for Israel of the fighting in the Persian Gulf are seen by Israeli analysts as a brief, a short-term benefit, while an Iraqi victory would eventually pose a serious threat." The eastern front against Israel has only been delayed for the moment, but whether there is a clear Iraqi victory or a stalemate-tinged analysis appear to agree that Iran has emerged strengthened and potentially dangerous; it is in this context that David Richardson's bid for a nuclear settlement.

The NEW SATAR in Hebrew on 16 September 1980 carries a commentary by Avi Shatz entitled "Al-Nasir of the 1980's" in which he compares Saddam Hussein with Al-Nasir. In the former's aim to stand at the head of "Three continents (Asia, Africa, Europe) and the Arab." This is defined as the desire to replace Al-Nasir as the leader of the "Third World movement toward 'decolonization' as well as eventual control of the Persian Gulf. After an analysis of the political situation in the neighboring Arab countries, the commentator discusses Saddam's policy of maneuvering between Washington and Moscow, both the superpowers have recently been assisting Iraq, which treats them both with a mixture of demagoguery and intransigence."

Further historical comparisons are made with Al-Nasir and precedents taken from the existing India conflict are quoted, stressing an "additional aspect" of the similarities between the two leaders, when this time Iraqis have been mentioned to play Kissinger's role of 1968 and, perhaps more than as the person giving the presidential hint about "involvement" in the benefit of one of the sides (India-Pakistan, or perhaps Iraq) perhaps as the main witness of U.S. helplessness.

in its aim to influence the results." If navigation through the Straits of Hormuz is seriously disturbed, the commentator writes that "such a disturbance would provide Carter with justification to do what Lyndon Johnson did not do when Al-Nasir informed him of the blockade of the Straits of Tiran to Israeli navigation: use force." However, this would help Carter, but not Khomeyni, since Saddam Husayn would be the gainer from this.

Levi Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew on 26 September 1980 carries a commentary by Erol Guiney, entitled "The Israeli Angle in the Iraq/Iran Crisis," in which he analyzes the implications for Israel of the current struggle, pointing out that the first conclusions to be drawn are that the "undisturbed flow of Middle East oil to the Western industrialized countries does not only depend on a solution to the Palestinian problem." Unfortunately world public opinion has not yet realized this; however, the current conflict may help Israel to make it plain that "the entire world--and especially the United Nations--is hypnotized by the Palestinian problem," out of all proportion to its genuine importance. This will be a difficult barrier to overcome and it will take time. In the meantime, if the fighting causes a further price increase in oil Israel will suffer greatly, along with the Western countries. There are other, no less important lessons to be learned from the conflict: while it may appear that Israel will benefit from Iraq and Iran, its enemies, weakening each other in the fighting, "this issue also has other aspects, such as, for example, the military experience these armies are acquiring as they fight." If it should occur that Iraq is the loser in the conflict "this should be regarded as a very positive development, since Saddam Husayn is Israel's most dangerous enemy" and if he emerges victorious and gains a nuclear potential sometime in the near future, "this is a thought that can make us shiver." However, the commentator thinks that Iraq will emerge victorious,

Aside from the military strength Iraq will then have gained, if Iran is vanquished the commentator predicts that the Soviet Union will increase its presence in the Persian Gulf. "It is hard to predict in advance what the Americans will do in such an event. If they do no more than they did after the invasion of Afghanistan, the situation will be bad; if they do more--taking advantage of the fact that they have some 30 warships and 2 aircraft carriers in the vicinity--there may be a danger of a clash between the superpowers." This is why both superpowers are now trying to end the conflict by use of the UN Security Council, "but the Soviet Union is in a more convenient position to use its influence since it has relations with both countries involved, while the United States has no relations with either of them."

For Israel the best solution would be for the UN Security Council to succeed in ending the conflict, since whoever emerges as victor in the conflict, Israel would eventually suffer and "if the victor is Iraq--somewhat that appears to be a reasonable assumption--it may very well

is that the Iraqi attack was only made possible by the insane anti-U.S. policy of the Iranian revolutionary regime." It is true that the average Israeli inclines toward supporting Iraq in the conflict, because of the "pact signed between Khomeyni and Yasser 'Arafat." These two have nothing in common other than a hatred for Israel, but the pact could represent a serious threat. As for the U.S. role in the conflict, "the U.S. declaration of neutrality and the emphasis that it does not intend to intervene in the conflict between Iran and Iraq are the results of helplessness, not of a firm, well thought out policy." The United States "cannot be neutral in this conflict" since whoever wins, the results will affect oil supplies to the West and "if the Iraqis win, this will, to a great extent, also be a victory for the Soviet Union." The USSR has apparently given up hope of influence in Iran and now hopes to gain a strong foothold in Iraq "and nobody will believe that such a development is leaving Washington calm."

The commentator believes that the United States must intervene; "The Soviets have no need to intervene; the Iraqi army is doing its work even without the entry of Soviet units into action." If the superpowers do not actively intervene, it is clear that Khomeyni's regime will fall and Soviet influence in the area will increase.

The current conflict has also exposed another "lie" which is the theory that "it is necessary to supply semiprimitive societies with weapons so that they may defend themselves against Soviet expansionism." Iran was provided with enormous supplies of U.S. weapons and technology, but did not know how to use them and they have "disappeared from the face of the earth." A further lesson to be learned from the conflict is that "within the Muslim world there are contradictory interests no less severe than those existing in the Christian world." This situation may change, but in the meantime "no Muslim artillery is shooting at imperialist targets and much artillery is shooting at Muslim targets." The commentary concludes by saying: "Now the question arises of whether the belief that all the Muslims are capable of fighting together for a common cause is also not one of the fairy tales that do not stand up to the test of reality. It was only a week ago that the conference of Muslim countries met in Fez and decided that a jihad against Israel must be prepared. Now the Persian Gulf is in the grip of flames; and if there is anything in this to cause concern, there is, paradoxically, also something that can cause us to relax."

CSO: 4820

ISRAEL

(P41113)

JERUSALEM LAW--Tel Aviv--Just over half the public supports the enactment of the Basic Law in Jerusalem, according to the latest JERUSALEM POST poll conducted by the Had'iv Israeli Applied Research Centre among a representative selection of 2,000 adults. In response to the question "Do you think the Basic Law in Jerusalem should have been enacted by the Knesset?", 51.1 percent said yes, 41.7 percent said no, and 6.6 percent were undecided. According to centre director Amir Yaroni, a high level of support for the Jerusalem Law was found among the young (87.9 percent of the 18-22 age group), primary-school leavers (59.7 percent), priests (62.4 percent), religious (71.1 percent), lower income (80.4 percent), blue-collar workers (67.6 percent), Muslavim (72.1 percent), supporters of the Likud (75.7 percent), the National Religious Party (70.1 percent) and Telviv (64.4 percent). Opponents of the law were found among the better educated and the better-off, Jewish communists, the secular, and Labor supporters. [Text] [TAJ41844 Jerusalem JERUSALEM POST in English 26 Sep 80 p 3]

V. RABE, GAZA CORRIDOR--Egypt is seeking the creation of a corridor between the Gaza Strip and the West Bank to establish a Palestinian territorial continuity between the two areas in which autonomy is to be implemented. Our political reporter says this is one of the demands contained in a document presented by Egypt to the U.S. administration in Washington. Political circles in Jerusalem have rejected the demand out of hand. Our reporter also says that in contacts with the U.S. administration the Egyptians expressed disappointment with the reports submitted by the Palestinian negotiator Sal Likhowitz. Egypt said the document accepted Israeli decision about substantive issues relating to the implementation of the autonomy plan. [Text] [TAJ40834 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0900 GMT 24 Sep 80]

WAGE FALL WINDING--The demand for workers in the second third of this year dropped 20.5% compared with the previous 4 months. In construction and industry jobs demand fell by 19 percent and for professional men and clerical workers 17 percent. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1801 GMT 24 Sep 80 p 3]

NEW PRIME MINISTER OUTLINES POLICY IN FIRST MAJOR INTERVIEW

Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 19 Jul 80 pp 20-21

[Interview with Jordanian Prime Minister Qasim al-Rimawi by Hani Khayr, in Amman; date not given]

[Text] In His First Press Interview, Prime Minister al-Rimawi Says: "Jordan Is Looking for New Sources of Energy and Weapons.

"Palestinian Question Has Been in Existence Before Resolution 242 Was Passed. Jordan, Therefore, Has Called for an Alternative Resolution To Achieve a Just and Comprehensive Peace."

Three weeks filled with work and responsibilities have so far gone by since the government of Dr Qasim al-Rimawi was formed. He participated in the funeral of his brother-in-law, the late al-Sharif 'Abd-al-Hamid Sharaf; he conducted the affairs of his cabinet which he was charged to form and which he reformed in less than 24 hours; he showed interest in the Conference of Arab Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Economy which was held in Amman; he showed interest in the Conference of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Islamic Countries which was also held in Amman; and he made preparations to host the Arab Summit Conference which is supposed to be held next fall in the Jordanian capital.

Dr al-Rimawi has been as busy as the mother of a bridegroom and the mother of a bride. He has not slowed down, and he has not rested. Even though Dr Rimawi's policy will be a continuation of the Jordanian policy established by his predecessor, the late Sharaf, and although al-Rimawi has kept the same team that worked in Sharaf's government, al-Rimawi remains the second officer in command of the Jordanian ship that is piloted by King Husayn. AL-MUSTAQBAL asked Prime Minister al-Rimawi to respond to a number of questions about Jordan's political and economic course. We conducted this interview, which was the first given to an Arabic publication by the new Jordanian prime minister.

[Question] Several conferences were held in Cairo recently under your administration. They took place under critical circumstances that our Arab nation is experiencing. Please give us a brief view of the outcome of these conferences and the results that this aspect will be implemented on the Arab and international arena.

[Answer] The main events that have taken place recently are the conference of Arab ministers of foreign affairs and economy, the conference of ministers of foreign affairs of the Islamic countries, and the conference of Arab ministers of economic affairs in the context of joint Arab action and consideration of measures to confront the challenges and the dangers that are facing the pan-Arab cause whose essence lies in the question of the Palestinian people and their rights. The Social and Economic Council studied the problem of strengthening economic integration and the integration of developmental planning on a pan-Arab scale. The council recommended adoption of a unified economic plan for the Arab world to meet the needs of Arab development in the next decade. This method of Arab planning is considered to be a fundamental change in Arab action whose objective is to weave new international Arab fabric; to remedy the existing discrepancy between the economic structure of one Arab country and another; and to give Arab countries in building a strong base for a joint Arab economy that would bolster the structure of the Arabs' own power and the Arabs' self-reliance.

What is new in this conference is the shift to build institutions for joint Arab action on a rational and scientific principles in the context of strong, long-term planning that constitutes an Arab economic strategy to strengthen the integration of various Arab energies and capabilities and to give the prestige of the Arab nation in the face of the Zionist menace. This requires the mobilization of all the means of the Arabs' own power in all political, military and economic areas on an equal basis. In addition, the conference focused on another significant economic dimension: restoring international Arab economic relations to work to serve mutual Arab interests and to complete this important dimension of confronting the growing Zionist threat to the Arab nation.

The conference of the ministers of foreign affairs of Islamic countries was held in the context of joint Arab-Islamic action to champion the cause of strengthening the economic growth of Islam, and to give the Palestinian issue its Islamic dimension insofar as it is the most serious challenge facing the Islamic world, jeopardizing the fact that Palestine and Jerusalem are part of the Islamic heritage. The conference was characterized by its orientation to the practical steps to support our common Islamic objectives. It has attracted special attention and to the Arab world, and has supported the measures that are assisting the process of making economic cooperation with supporting the Israeli colonizing. The conference has also emphasized the need to channel the Arab funds. All these are being channeled into the joint Arab effort to confront the Zionist threat to the Arab nation.

reveal the truth about Israel's objectives and to strengthen Arab-Islamic solidarity.

[Question] Jordan was a pivotal factor in bringing about rapprochement between Jordan and the other Arab countries on the basis of establishing coordination among the Arab countries and including the PLO as a party with direct responsibility in solving the Palestinian question. How does your excellency evaluate this effort?

[Answer] Jordan's action on the Arab scene is predicated on its firm belief in its role and in its pan-Arab responsibility towards the Arab nation. Under the leadership of Husayn, Jordan played a prominent role in preventing the collapse of the Arab front after Egypt's departure from the Arab scene and its isolation. Jordan played a prominent role in strengthening the spirit of confidence in the Arab front by adopting a new Arab position at the Baghdad Conference, which is based on rejecting the deviation embodied in the Camp David Accords and on [establishing] Arab solidarity in the face of the penetration of the Arab front and the isolation of Egypt from the Arab scene. Jordan played a prominent role in bolstering positive Arab action and in striving to strengthen pan-Arabism and the integration of the Arabs' own power. Jordan also played a prominent role in maintaining with the world a dialog based on principles that assure a just and comprehensive peace as well as the legitimate rights of the people of Palestine to achieve sovereignty over their land and freedom to determine their own destiny. These principles call for total Israeli withdrawal from occupied territory. It is natural for the PLO, in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians, to be a party to joint Arab action and to be a basic party in the process of searching for a just and a comprehensive peace.

[Question] Is Jordan taking new action regarding the subject of proposing an alternative to Resolution 242 or to the Camp David Accords? King Husayn had previously made such a statement to several foreign newspapers. He had explained Jordan's position during his visit to the United States, and he had called for the necessity of coming up with a program to replace the floundering in Arab policy. Would you comment on this?

[Answer] His Majesty King Husayn had explained that Resolution 242 was no longer adequate in itself as a remedy for the question of the Palestinian people. The resolution was issued in 1967 to remedy the effects of the 1967 aggression on the territories of three Arab countries. The Palestinian question was in existence before this resolution; its tenets pertained to the legitimate rights of the people of Palestine that were recognized in other UN resolutions. During his recent visit to the United States, His Majesty King Husayn explained Jordan's position which is based on advocating a just and comprehensive peace that would deal with all the aspects of the question, as well as

with its on-going quest for the people of Palestine--as to achieve a permanent peace which future generations can accept. King Husayn affirmed that the present action within the Camp David framework had failed to achieve a comprehensive peace, and that there was an urgent need for broad international action based on going beyond the impotent policies of Camp David and on adopting fundamental principles upon which a just and permanent peace can be based.

Jordan's actions on the international scene are based on basic principles that underlie its framework for joint Arab position and an Arab consensus. These principles will guarantee Palestinian rights; call for the withdrawal of the occupation forces; and seek to guarantee the Palestinian people's freedom to determine their own destiny on their occupied land.

[Question] Will His Majesty King Husayn visit the Soviet Union as had been previously indicated? What is the purpose of this visit?

[Answer] Jordan has been intent on establishing relations of cooperation and friendship with all the nations and countries of the world. The Soviet Union is among them. Jordan wants to establish such relations on a foundation of mutual respect and cooperation so as to serve the Arab cause. Jordan has already ties with the Soviet Union, and there is a standing invitation for His Majesty King Husayn to visit the Soviet Union. His Majesty will accept the invitation at an appropriate time.

[Question] Mr. Khalid al-Nasran, member of the PLO, told one of the Arab newspapers that Carter's success would be to some extent in the Arabs' interests, because the Jewish lobby was working for Carter's defeat and for fragmenting electoral vote by nominating Anderson as a third candidate. Thus, Vice President Mondale would be brought in, because the U.S. constitution provides that Congress would elect the president in case neither the Democratic candidate nor the republican candidate gets the votes required by the constitution for winning the election. What does your office/agency think about this?

[Answer] What is happening in the U.S. elections is not the primary factor in our situation. What is important is what is happening on the Arab scene. Although the U.S. scene is very important in relation to the Middle East question, the evolution of the U.S. policy into a balanced position is contingent upon the evolution of the situation on the Arab scene. The Arabs' success in building a unified Arab position and establishing their principles for action on the international scene, as well as their success in building their own power and investing in their enterprises and tremendous economic and strategic prestige in the world to bolster the Arab position are the catalytic agents in the process of altering international positions and influencing countries to champion Arab rights. If we were to realize this, what happens on the U.S. electoral scene will inevitably be affected by the magnitude of Arab interests in our countries. This is the yardstick we have to use.

[Question] Reactions among the Arab masses to the statement made by the secretary general of the Arab League after the conclusion of the Conference of Arab Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Economy were not what they were expected to be. What is your excellency's comment on this situation?

[Answer] The special session of the Social and Economic Conference [was convened] to establish a strategy for economic and developmental integration in the Arab world and [to find] means for confronting the Zionist enemy in the coming phase. This step is being taken in the context of long-range, well-considered, scientific planning. This step must be viewed and its results must be evaluated in this context.

[Question] People in Jordan are talking about the investigations being carried out by duly authorized agencies in Jordan. These investigations deal with the existence of petroleum and with Jordan's determination to utilize oil shale for the extraction of petroleum since the economic feasibility of this process has been proven following the rise in oil prices. How far have these investigations and studies gone?

[Answer] Looking for oil and also leaning towards diversifying the sources of energy and providing guidance for energy use constitute the established national policy of Jordan. This is because Jordan imports all the oil it needs from abroad. There were and there still are continuous attempts to search for oil in Jordan. At present, Jordan is cooperating with several international corporations in an effort to search for oil in its territories. Jordan is allocating the necessary amounts of money for this effort every year. Studies are now being made about the possibility of utilizing shale oil, a large reserve of which has been discovered in south Jordan. We are still studying the economic feasibility of this process and the possibilities of utilizing shale oil in some heavy industries. We are also looking into the modern technology which this use of shale oil would require. Jordan is looking into this because of the tremendous burden placed on its shoulder as a confrontation state, in view of the continuing escalation of oil prices in a manner that is draining a large portion of the national revenues we need for building up and developing our national capabilities and the structure of our nation.

[Question] Does your government intent to submit a cabinet statement to the Advisory National Council in keeping with the traditions that have been followed in recent years?

[Answer] The government is committed to the statement that was submitted to the Advisory National Council by the cabinet of the late al-Sharif 'Abd-al-Hamid Sharaf. It is committed to the principles that were included in the royal message that commissioned his cabinet. The new cabinet considers itself an extension of the previous cabinet in following its principles. It will abide by national and pan-Arab principles

and by the government policy proposed by the late al-Sharif 'Abd-al-Hamid Sharaf. It will especially abide by the pan-Arab policy that was planned for Jordan by His Majesty King Husayn. It will bolster the national structure and national solidarity. It will strive to build a new society based on unity, the sharing of responsibility, social awareness, integrity in government and mobilization of national capabilities in the context of a long-range national plan whose objective is to strengthen national foundations of independence, social security and continued progress and development.

8592

CSO: 4802

FOREIGN MINISTER REJECTS LEBANON'S CRITICISM OF LACK OF SUPPORT

Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 8-14 Sep 80 pp 46-48

[Interview with Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwait foreign minister, by Mona es-Said; date and place not given]

[Excerpts]

Kuwait's deputy premier and foreign minister, Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah, last week rejected Lebanese officialdom's bitter criticism of all Arab countries for their failure to do anything about the continuing and escalating Israeli attacks on South Lebanon.

The questions and answers in full:



Kuwait has supported Crown Prince Fahd's call for a *Holy War* to liberate Jerusalem, but there seems to be some confusion about this call:

a) Is it a call for military confrontation? Does this mean that Kuwait is ready to enter such a confrontation with Israel directly, or that Kuwait is ready to support the Arab confrontation

states in a war against Israel? Or does it mean that Kuwait is ready to issue a call for volunteers to engage in such a war and establish military training camps for them, as the PLO proposed at the Casablanca meeting of the Jerusalem Committee two weeks ago?

b) Is it a call for economic and political confrontation with the states which are supporting Israel? Is Kuwait ready to use the oil weapon in such a confrontation — either by resorting to a boycott of the U.S. and possibly Western Europe, or by reducing production, or by raising prices?

c) Does Kuwait make its call for a *Holy War* conditional on the acceptance and participation of all Arab countries? If so, doesn't the present Arab situation preclude any Arab action against

Israel, be it *Holy War* or anything else, in view of the many inter-Arab disputes?

We have noticed that the United States has dismissed the *Holy War* call as unimportant. The U.S. State Department has said that the call does not signify any change in the Arab position. Why do you think Washington is so certain that the Arabs will do nothing of significance about the annexation of Jerusalem or the continued occupation of Arab land, and what do you think the Arabs can do to change the American view of them — short of waging economic or military war?

There is no confusion about the call for a *Holy War*. A *Holy War* is not restricted to any one aspect at the expense of the other. It involves humans and riches, i.e., human lives and finances.

If solutions with the enemy through peaceful means prove beyond reach, we would have no choice but to resort to a *Holy War*. In this context, Kuwait is but part of a whole. And, as I just said, a *Holy War* has an all-inclusive character which includes all ways and means that are conducive to the recovery of (one's) rights.

This being the case, it is immaterial to us whether the United States takes the *Holy War* call seriously or dismisses it as unimportant. It is free to formulate its own opinion. But it must realize that the patience of peoples and nations has a limit which, if exceeded, could lead to a catastrophe. And a catastrophe is bound to affect all parties.

■
Much has been said about growing instability in the Gulf, including Kuwait.

a) Judging by the arrests that have been made so far and the statements made by the suspects, who do you think is behind this attempt to promote unrest in Kuwait?

b) The Kuwaiti ambassador to the United Nations has told *Monday Morning* that in his view, Kuwait should rid itself of the foreign majority in the country and restrict the entry of foreigners to Kuwait in the future. Are you thinking in those terms?

c) Do you think that the return to parliamentary democracy in Kuwait will help block the destabilization attempts in the country? Are those attempts behind the decision to resurrect parliament?

True, a lot has been said and continues to be said about growing instability. But those who are saying this stop short of naming those who stand behind it. Why? Who are those who are instigating confusion, anarchy, instability and troubles in the Gulf?

I don't think there is anyone who doesn't know their identity. They are the deceitful foreign hands, Israel being one of them. They will not hesitate to do anything to achieve their mischievous designs and ambitions.

As for the return to parliamentary democracy in Kuwait, it has nothing to do with the security of the Gulf, those trying to destabilize it, or those who think they could take advantage from fomenting troubles.

The return to parliamentary democracy is in line with a pledge made by His Highness the Emir of Kuwait. He is now fulfilling the pledge made to the people after a pause for reflection and deep thinking aimed at correcting Kuwait's democratic course.

And thus it was.

How does Kuwait view the establishment of an American swift intervention force for the protection of Western interests in the Gulf? What do you think the Gulf countries can do to avert a super-power struggle in their area?

We view such intervention with indignation and revulsion — whether it is called swift intervention or creeping intervention. We are not sure whether such interveners have a right to meddle in our affairs under the pretext of protecting Western interests.

The proposed Security Council resolution of sanctions against Israel has been pushed aside. Does Kuwait believe that it should be put to the council again, despite the certainty of an American veto? If so, what would the Kuwaiti reaction to the American veto be?

I don't understand why the United States alone opposes a resolution by the Security Council members. It is about time to look into this so-called veto power.

Would you give us your response to the threat made by Palestinian leaders recently to the effect that the Palestinians would attack the Arab oil wells or oil routes if the Arabs continue to refuse to use their oil as a weapon?

I told you earlier that if the time for *Holy War* comes, it will involve the use of all means.

The Lebanese authorities have been very bitter in their criticism of all Arab countries for their failure to do anything about the continuing and escalating Israeli attacks on Lebanon. Other than statements of support, what do you think the Arab states should do to help Lebanon? And what is Kuwait ready to do, regardless of the attitude of other Arab governments? For instance:

a) Lebanon's U.N. Ambassador Ghassan Tuani has called on the Arab countries to help Lebanon turn its southern region into a "peace zone." This means that the Arabs should help Lebanon persuade the Palestinians to end their armed presence and activities in the South and to allow the Lebanese Army and UNIFIL to take over the entire area.

Do you agree? If so, what can Kuwait do to help in that direction? If not, could you explain why?

b) Mr. Tuani and other Lebanese officials have said that if the Arabs do not want to help create a "peace zone" in the South, they should help in the war that is being waged in the South. Do you agree? How is Kuwait ready to help?

Had the Lebanese authorities been serious about solving the Lebanese crisis, the situation would not have reached this stage of anarchy

and integrity which has led to the
frustration, the destruction of the
country and its economy, and the
neglect of all the resolutions and
agreements which were put forward
by the Arab brethren. This being
the case, what do you want the
Arabs to do?

■
Before and after the latest
Israeli attack, on the South
and the latest Syrian-Israeli
air clash over the South, there have
been many predictions of an im-
minent Israeli invasion of South
Lebanon which it is said, is bound
to lead to another Middle Eastern
war. Do you think the predictions
are justified?

As long as the situation re-
mains unchanged, and since
our Lebanese brethren do not want
to refer to resort, the chances of
Israeli attacks remain justified and
may be borne out - whether on
Lebanon's South or its North.

■
Would you give us your
impression of the proposed EEC
peace initiative after your talks with
Mr. Gaston Thurn?

When will it start? What time will it
take? What importance do you
attach to it?

We support any peace initiative
provided it is based on right and
justice. We are proponents of peace.
We seek the peace that we and the
world believe in, not the kind of
peace based on usurpation, the
defiance of world community reso-
lutions and the disregard of the
Security Council which represents
the will of the world at large. ■

MINISTER DISCUSSES DEFENSE ISSUES, ARMS PURCHASE

Jiddah ARAB NEWS in English 28-29 Aug 80 p 2

(Text)

JAH Aug 27 (SPA) - Defense Minister Prince Sultan indicated that the United States agreed to provide additional equipment for the old F-15 fighters sold to Saudi Arabia. He told reporters here that "this is a foregone conclusion" and as a result "before we do not make requests that are denied to us."

Referring to objections by Israel and its supporters in Washington to the Saudi Arabian request, Prince Sultan said "we shall not allow our enemies to obstruct our requests." He made his statement during a brief encounter with reporters covering an Arab interior ministers conference in the city.

U.S. officials said last June that Saudi Arabia sought fuel pods and multiple ejection racks that would permit much larger bomb loads on the F-15. The pods would extend the two-way range of the plane from 450 miles to more than 1,000 miles.

Prince Sultan said the government was carefully studying a plan to introduce the draft. It is being studied with care so that we may be sure of the benefits of the decision, he said. The draft proposal was revealed two years ago.

Asked about Crown Prince Fahd's call for jihad to liberate Jerusalem and other occupied Arab territories, Prince Sultan said jihad was the aim of peace and stability "if the Muslims cannot regain their lost rights by peaceful means." Jihad, as it is well known, involves sacrifice and struggle in defense of our religion, our people and our holy places, he said.

"If the Muslims cannot achieve their objectives by peaceful means, which we seek, then jihad will be resorted to," he added.

MINISTER EMPHASIZES DIVERSE NATURE OF ARMS SOURCES

Jiddah ARAB NEWS in English 3 Sep 80 p 1

(Text)

[JAB, Sept 2 (SPA) — The Kingdom's armament policy is based on diversifying the source of arms, Defense Minister Prince Sultan said here Monday. This has led to separate arms agreements between Saudi Arabia and the United States, Britain, France and Sweden and others.

Producing its own weapons also is an aim of the Kingdom, and its industries in Kharij serve as both a training ground as well as a production center. About 600 youths are trained each year, and already 3,600 men are working at the industries.

Speaking at a press conference here at the end of King Khaled's visit to the northern province, Prince Sultan said his government looks only for those arms it needs from whatever source. There is no commitment of any kind between us and any other government regarding armaments supplies, he said. We seek anything new and useful, we can get from our friends.

Included in the group of Saudi Arabian arms suppliers are Japan, Belgium, Switzerland and Austria. The government studies the systems available from these and other countries, he said, then makes its purchases.

Prince Sultan said that during his recent visit to Austria he signed agreements for the purchase of light weapons, including machineguns, transport vehicles and ammunition. A Saudi Arabian military mission visited Austria later for the same reason.

Collective Arab efforts to produce arms make sense, the prince said, but has to be viewed without forgetting the Arab Industries Organization (AIO) which was based in

Egypt. After Egypt signed its peace treaty with Israel, the deal collapsed.

The AIO was financed by Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait. When the four countries withdrew, Egypt continued operations alone.

The vastness of the Kingdom demands military installations throughout the country, Prince Sultan pointed out. Part of the King Khaled Military Complex will be ready in two years, with the remainder expected to be finished in four years. Since the defense plan covers the entire country, defense installations won't be confined to just one corner, the prince said.

Other projects in the works include King Abdul Aziz Military College — which was begun a few months ago — military schools in Jassim and Al-Dawasser, and the completed paratroop and special forces training center in Tabuk.

Also in Tabuk is the new military hospital in the eastern region, which includes training and teaching facilities for local medical and nursing students, as well as various specialty facilities.

Included in the current five year development plan are major military projects like the King Faisal Air Academy and the new air base in Kharij. A tender for its construction has been accepted and the main runway already is constructed, Prince Sultan said.

This will become one of the finest air academies in the Middle East," the prince said adding that "it should be operational at the end of the (five-year) plan."

USSR RODINA SOCIETY ESTABLISHES CONTACT WITH SAUDI ARABIAN UZBEKS

Tashkent OZBEKISTAN MADANIYATI in Uzbek 1 Jun 80 p 4

[Article by Ahmadjan Luqmanov, Department Director of the Rodina Society: "Love of Fatherland"]

[Text] Among the spiritual riches of mankind, there cannot be a gem greater or more precious than the love which exists in the treasury of an honest man's heart for the Fatherland. Wherever a man with love for the land where he was born and his forefathers were buried may be, in whatever conditions he may live, an inextinguishable fire burns in his heart. In particular, it is natural for a man to suffer forever from longing for the Fatherland when, as fate will have it, he renounces a life's dearest and most inexhaustible treasure as the result of a wrong step taken without hesitation and without understanding it well. Are there only a few who speak of the Fatherland, who look homesick for its enchanting greetings and salutations, who listen to its voice and echo, who have retired from the mortal to the immortal? They are very numerous. Love for the mother earth is, to say it briefly, love for the Fatherland when the nightingale's speech and the turtledove's cry are drawn into a man's heart. This moaning of the heart pours out as lines on white paper; it breaks the heart of a man into a hundred pieces.

Our countryman (originally from Andijan) Yaqubkhoja Mithjuri who is residing in Saudi Arabia has sent a few poems on the Fatherland to the address of the Uzbekistan Society for Cultural Relations with Countrymen in Foreign Nations (the Rodina Society), and has requested that we place them in the press to be presented to the judgment of poetry readers in Soviet Uzbekistan.

Below, we offer you two muvassahah poems by the poet.

"Andijan"

Hey, zephyr, find the cure of cures for us, too.
O, bring news from the forlorn regions to us, too.
When you pass the days of early spring on that field
of flowers,
Pick a handful of melancholy lilies for us, too.

Put the sugar of my love all round and flout them to the
nightingale,
Take on a personality more than anyone has on, too,
If you get a chance, tell about my solitary state, too.
If you are one who understands, bring some good news
to me, too.

Make the words and objects in the story funny.
Copy by hand some words written in that down to you, too.
Make up a story and write it down in every body.
Take a few words from that story for you, too.

• • •

About 10:00 a version of Beowulf, which in the sign of the
nightingale.

Bare face, nightingale voice, play a simple song
in the maian style, and let me present a gift of rose-
budsquels of poets.

As that yield and suffering will not find a permanent place
in the heart.

Should you not make my color more tawny than the sculptor
of my statue?
It had turned yellow through sorrow and separation.

When Faberian describes his Indian quality,
I call the catered doctor as smooth-tongued as tuff.

Her, singing, qutub, comprise a makhm on "Shahnaaz" and "Guliyar," let heaven and earth sing of what they know.

See off Mubarratly with music and a melody.
For a night, have him go through the motions of a dervish
dance.

RIYADH GOVERNOR DISCUSSES DEVELOPMENT, OIL PRODUCTION

Jiddah ARAB NEWS in English 7 Sep 80 p 2

(Text)

RIYADH, Sept 6 (SPA) — The Governor of Riyadh has disputed reports that the Kingdom has only 25 years of proven oil reserves, saying instead that the oil here would last for hundreds of years.

Prince Salman, speaking to Saudi Arabian students in Denver, Colo., said experts realize the great volume of oil that lies still untapped in Saudi Arabia. Now, the country produces about 9.5 million barrels of oil daily, with its reserves said to be in the billions of barrels.

Prince Salman is touring the United States to meet with students from the Kingdom, talking to them about their country and answering their questions.

He said that the present rate of oil production, highest in the country's history, is necessary because of the current development plans here. "We may push ahead with the many projects covered by them (the plans)," he told students.

The government was taking care to develop the entire country, the prince explained, so that it may reduce the rate of population shift from the rural areas to big cities.

"We are developing fast," he said, "while at the same time controlling inflation which it on time reached 40 per cent before dropping to seven or eight per cent."

The economic welfare of the world is considered as the government plans its oil policies, the prince said. Especially important are considerations for the developing nations, who rely heavily on oil imports to fuel their industrial growth.

"We can reduce oil production," Prince Salman said, "but this would adversely affect our development plans." Therefore, he explained the government raises production to a certain level so that it would serve its own interests better and boost the rate of development here. Once the government decides it would be in its political and economic interest to lower the oil production, it would do so, he said.

Speaking on other matters, Prince Salman pointed out that the basic system of law announced by King Khaled last year would not be a constitution as such, for the Kingdom's basic law is the Quran. King Khaled has promised a basic system of government, a consultative council and a provincial system as well.

The consultative council will be formed of various educated men, nominated by the King, to advise him on matters of state. A committee under Prince Naif, the interior minister, was formed to draw up details for the three systems.

"These systems require a great deal of study and preparation," said Prince Salman, noting that no time limit has been set for the review. All existing laws and regulations will be incorporated in the basic system of government, he said.

The Kingdom may embark on a plan for compulsory military training, the Prince also said. The council of ministers now is studying that issue. However, few details are available now.

Prince Salman said the call for jihad, or a holy struggle to regain the city of Jerusalem

from Israeli control is not a new one, and similar calls have been made before by Saudi Arabian rulers. Crown Prince Fahd called for jihad last month following the formal annexation of Jerusalem and the declaration by Israel that the holy city was the eternal and undivided capital of the Jewish state.

King Abdul Aziz made the call in 1947 and 1948, and it was reiterated in 1969 by King Faisal after the fire in the holy mosque of Aqsa.

Both war and political and economic restraint should be prepared, Prince Salman said. "Because what was taken by force must be regained by force."

If the Arabs can reconcile their differences, the prince noted, they would become a seri-

ous force throughout the world. He made it clear that the problem with Israel is not only the occupied Golan Heights of Syria or the Sinai in Egypt, but also Palestine — the central issue in the whole question.

Saudi Arabia believed the Camp David accords will not achieve the Arab objectives, he said. Since the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, sponsored by the United States, did not deal with the Palestinian problem, the Arab states rejected the agreement.

Although President Sadat of Egypt had promised to uphold Arab rights during his visit to Jerusalem, he did not, and in fact (ignored) them especially regarding Palestine and Jerusalem, "the prince said.

CONSTRUCTION OF POLICE INSTITUTE NEARS COMPLETION

Jiddah ARAB NEWS in English 27 Aug 80 p 2

(Text)

JEDDAH, Aug 26 (SPA) — Construction of a SR400 million Arab Institute for Police Studies in Saudi Arabia has begun and will be completed soon, Interior Minister Prince Naif said Monday on the eve of the third Arab interior ministers conference opening in Taif Tuesday.

Establishment of both the institute and an Arab Studies Center had been decided by second Arab interior ministers conference held in Baghdad, and Prince Naif said the conference in Taif will consider merging the institute and the center in the Kingdom.

He also said the board of the center has already been formed under the Saudi interior minister.

In addition, the conference will discuss the security of Arab society in the present and future, and the establishment of a Permanent Council of Arab Interior Ministers. He denied reports to the effect that a Gulf Interior Ministers Conference would be held soon.

There is only an Arab Interior Ministers Conference at present, he said, and during the session, bilateral meetings would take place between Gulf ministers as is customary in such conferences. He said we are at the stage of global Arab efforts.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Muhammad ibn Khalifa Al-Khalifa, the Bahraini minister of interior who arrived in Taif Monday evening with Sheikh Sorour ibn Muhammad Al-Nahayan, the head of the office of the UAE president, said that the conference has particular importance since it will deal with the security of the Arab world at a time of intense superpower conflict.

The Kuwaiti Interior Minister, Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabbah, and Ahmad Ould Baba, secretary general of the Mauritanian Interior Ministry, also arrived Monday evening and were met at the airport by Prince Naif and other officials.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

DETAILS OF GAS, OIL DISCOVERY REVIEWED

Beirut THE ARAB WORLD WEEKLY in English 23 Aug 80 pp 11, 12

(Text) A new offshore gas field now being developed in Abu Dhabi could more than double the reserves of the UAE to 44.5 trillion cubic feet; oil industry sources in the Emirates said last week.

The sources said the Umm Al Shaif field, midway between Abu Dhabi and Qatar is estimated to contain 24 trillion cubic feet of gas. The UAE government has not yet announced figures on the field's reserves.

The UAE's total gas reserves were 20.5 trillion cubic feet at the end of 1979, OAPEC figures show. The UAE sources told Reuters that an exploratory well was drilled at Umm Al Shaif to between 15,000 and 16,000 feet at the end of 1979 and development drilling was now underway.

The field is being operated by the Abu Dhabi Marine Operating Company (ADMA-OPCO). The Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) has a 60 percent share in the company, the rest is being held by the British Petroleum Company (BP) with 14.67 percent and Compagnie Francaise de Petroles (CFP) 13.33 percent and Japan Oil Development Corporation 12 percent.

The sources said ADMA OPCO has started test-drilling in the Zakum offshore field and hopes to reach the target depth in autumn.

In another oil development in the UAE, the Qatar News Agency reported that one exploratory well in the offshore Butinah well indicated reserves of 1,000 million barrels of oil.

The UAE at present produces about 1.7 million barrels of oil a day, mostly in Abu Dhabi. UAE Oil Minister Dr. Maneh Said Al Otaiba said earlier this year that his country's oil and gas reserves were far bigger than commonly reported, adding that the country was continuing to find new deposits of oil and gas in new sites and at different levels in fields already being exploited.

Meanwhile the UAE newspaper Al Bayan reported that ADNOC has discovered new oil reserves which are eight times Abu Dhabi's total 1979 output.

Since Abu Dhabi's oil production last year totalled 500 million barrels the new reserves are estimated in the region of about 4,000 million barrels, Al Bayan quoted Chief of ADNOC's production and exploration department Rashid Nuwar as saying.

Nuwar said a vast quantity of natural gas was discovered in Umm Al Shaif field at a depth of 15,000 feet. There were signs indicating that the existence of one of the biggest gas fields in the world.

Nuwar added a new offshore field was discovered near Rutihan. Oil reserves in this field were estimated at 1,000 million barrels, according to experiments on only one well, he said.

Nuwar said that the implementation by ADNOC of a new policy on exploration resulted in the discovery of Umm Al Shaif Gas field. According to the new policy ADNOC has begun to explore deeper areas. It will also launch a comprehensive survey of all the Abu Dhabi fields at the end of 1980, he added.

CSO: 4820

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

RESTRICTED LICENSED BANKS TO INCREASE OPERATIONS

Beirut THE ARAB WORLD WEEKLY in English 30 Aug 80 pp 18, 19

[Excerpt] Restricted Licensed Banks (RLBs) in the UAE are reported to be in a state of flux. While the majority of them view the setting up of the Central Bank as an opportunity to play a greater part in the economic life of the country, one RLB has decided to close down its office by the end of the month: the Bank of Nova Scotia in Dubai. An announcement by the Bank said the decision to suspend its operations was part of its new strategy for the Gulf. The Bank's interests in the UAE will be looked after by its Offshore Banking Unit in Bahrain.

Other RLBs, however, believe that under the new monetary set-up, now emerging in the country, they may be allowed to extend the scope of their operations and a few do not even rule out the possibility of being able to convert their restricted licence into a full licence soon.

Two of them have ventured into new fields: Amro Bank, an Amsterdam-based international bank, is venturing into the diamond trade and has also opened an investment banking department at its office in Dubai. The bank also hopes to develop a primary and secondary market in bonds as well as an active Guilder market.

The American Express International Banking Corporation, which runs an RLB in Dubai, is also offering new services to its customers. It has started direct foreign exchange dealings, including such facilities as swap arrangements, forward deals and investment banking. The idea in starting these new operations is to see that local businessmen no longer have to go to London, Tokyo or New York for every bit of work connected with investments.

According to the UAE currency Board document which first mooted the setting up of RLBs, "they are expected to impart greater dynamism to the UAE financial system; they may also become a useful link in the evolution of the UAE as an important financial centre."

As an innovation in Gulf banking, RLBS have taken some time to find their feet, according to the KHALEEJ TIMES, but the success of their operations at the national level is reflected in recent Currency Board statistics. These show a steady increase in their assets, despite restrictions, from Dh.1,665.5 million at the end of 1978, to Dh.2,229.4 million at the end of March this year.

CSO: 4820

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

BRIEFS

NEW PROJECTS IN FUJAYRAH--Projects with outlays of about two billion dirhams are to be implemented in the Emirate of Fujeirah this year. They include the seaport where two quays are to be built at a cost of 175 million dirhams, in Fujeirah and another seaport at Diba at a cost of 100 million dirhams. This port will also provide berths for fishing boats. (the latest data reveal that 5,118 tonnes of fish are hauled in the emirate). Another harbour at an outlay of 18 million dirhams is being built at Marbah to shelter small fishing boats. The other projects are a 200-bed hospital to be built at a cost of Dh.200 million and a cement factory with an annual production capacity of 120,000 tonnes. Two thousand low-cost houses are being built in different parts of the emirate at a cost of 280 million dirhams. A 50-bed hospital costing 50 million dirhams will be constructed in Diba. Road projects costing Dh.206 million and other buildings costing 145 millions are also envisioned. Also slated for implementation are a number of federal projects including schools, mosques, low-cost houses and roads costing Dh.400 million. [Text] [Beirut THE ARAB WORLD WEEKLY in English 30 Aug 80 p 17]

PORT CONTAINERIZATION EXPANSION--A sum of about Dh.5,200,000 is to be spent on more container carriers for Port Rashid as its container traffic touches new highs. Three Valet straddle carriers, which lift containers around the port after they have been unloaded, will arrive towards the end of the year, according to a Dubai Port Services spokesman. The number of containers handled by the port has been rocketing. In 1977, 46,000 units were handled and this figure has grown to 133,537 in 1979. So far this year, around 102,000 units have been processed and a total of about 200,000 units is expected to be handled by the end of the year. The port has five straddle carriers now. The three new carriers due to arrive are being built in Finland and will be able to lift up to 30.5 tonnes. [Text] [Beirut THE ARAB WORLD WEEKLY in English 30 Aug 80 p 17]

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